Floor Speech - Reg Market analysis

Mr. President, I rise today to speak in favor of my colleague from Ohio’s amendments (number XX and XX), my amendment (number 674) and above all the issue before all of us today - Jobs.

Members of Congress has no greater responsibility right now to the American people than to work together to find commonsense solutions that will provide long term economic growth.

Americans have had to endure great hardships over the past few years. This recession has robbed millions of people of their jobs, their homes, and their sense of security.

No state has been harder hit than Nevada. My state has the unfortunate distinction of leading the nation in unemployment, foreclosures, and bankruptcies. There is no question that the status quo of dysfunctional government must end. People from all over the country are struggling just to get by and are desperate for real solutions.

Unfortunately, job creation and economic growth has taken a back seat to political posturing and grandstanding in Washington.

It is clear that the approach this Administration and its supporters have taken for economic recovery has failed miserably.

Out of control spending, a Health Care law that no one can afford, and a seemingly endless stream of regulations are crippling employers, stifling economic growth and killing jobs.

Instead of fighting for measures that create and protect jobs, this Administration has created more government that continues to impede economic growth at every turn.

The American public and businesses alike are waiting on a plan that can plant the seeds of economic growth and bolster job creation.

However, they need Washington to provide relief from new burdensome and overly intrusive regulations.

Congress must help job creators by ensuring every regulation proposed all agencies - Executive and Independent - is vetted with a full understanding of the impact it will have on businesses across the country.

I am pleased to join Senator Portman in the fight to reign in excessive government regulation and implement a market benefit analysis so the American public will can know the true costs of these regulations.

As President Obama said, we must reign in government agencies and force them to help businesses when they refuse to do so. I couldn’t agree more.

I commend Senator Portman and join him in his efforts to go one step farther than the President’s remarks and require Independent Agencies - such as the Federal Communications Commission - to conduct a market benefit analysis before they enact harmful regulations such as Net Neutrality.

Net Neutrality was approved by the Commission days before the new Congress began and it was recently published in the Federal Registrar.

This regulation will significantly impact the Internet by mandating how Internet providers offer service. I have heard from companies concerned that this regulation will stifle innovation, investment in infrastructure, and job growth.

We all should agree, that without a market benefit analysis on this rule, we do not know the true costs to the American people.

Allowing a rule of this economic magnitude to go forward without a clear understanding of the effects is reckless.

While this is just one example, I believe that all agencies – both Executive and Independent – should look at the impact of a proposed regulation on our economy before moving forward with it.

I urge my colleagues to support amendments number XX and XX.

I believe our best days are still ahead, but we need to change course now. We need to roll back the regulations that are tying the hands of entrepreneurs across America.

We can help hasten an economic recovery by embracing pro-growth policies that place more money in the pockets of Americans.

I would also like to highlight another issue that would help create jobs and provide certainty for businesses across the country…getting the nation’s fiscal house in order. This starts here with Congress through the budget process.

It has been nearly two and a half years since Congress has passed a budget. Passing a comprehensive budget is one of the most basic responsibilities of Congress, but it has failed to accomplish this task.

America desperately needs a comprehensive plan that offers real solutions to the economic and fiscal problems in this country. We cannot lower unemployment rates in Nevada or restore the housing market without a holistic approach to reining in federal spending and lowering the national debt.

Congress passed another continuing resolution that lacks a long-term approach to restoring our nation to fiscal sanity. Instead, this bill funds the government for a just a few more months.   
  
Congress cannot continue to function without a measure of accountability that holds Members of Congress to their constitutionally mandated responsibilities, which is why I introduced the No Budget No Pay amendment. I would like to call up amendment number 674 and dispense with the reading.

This commonsense measure requires Congress to pass a budget resolution by the beginning of any fiscal year. If Congress fails to pass a budget, then Members of Congress do not get paid.

Just like when American families sit down to pay their bills – they start with a budget providing them with the financial parameters of how much they can spend.

Congress needs to follow the example of hard working Americans and start at the beginning by passing a budget.

How can Congress commit to a a long term solution to our national debt crisis without a budget? Any serious proposal to rein in federal spending and create jobs starts with a responsible budget.

At home in Nevada, and across the country, if you don’t accomplish the tasks your job requires, you do not get paid. Somehow this very basic standard of responsibility is lost upon Washington.

The No Budget No Pay is not the end-all solution to our economic difficulties. It is, however, an important measure that Congress should adopt in order to show the American people that Members of Congress are serious about restoring our country to a period of economic prosperity.

Nevadans work hard for their paycheck and so should Congress.

And since the Majority believes the legislation before us today is a jobs bill, I encourage them take up other measures that will help with job creation such as opening up our country to energy exploration, and take the aggressive step of reforming our tax code, making it simpler for individuals and employers. Cut out the special interest loopholes while reducing the overall tax burden on all Americans.

Instead of looking for new ways to tax the American public, we should make our tax code more competitive and provide businesses the stability they need to grow and create jobs. The continual threat of tax increases feeds the uncertainty that serves as an impediment to economic growth

These are all things that both this Administration and Congress could do immediately to boost economic recovery.

Let’s give the American people a government that works for them. Removing impediments to job creation will get Americans working again and ensure our children and grandchildren have a brighter future.

Thank you Mr. President and I yield the floor.